## Meeting Summary **Dealer Practices Committee**

Monday September 9, 2019

Vice-Chairman Steve Farmer called the Dealer Practices Committee meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. in Room 702 of the DMV Headquarters Building at 2300 West Broad Street in Richmond. Present were Committee members: Michael Bor, Liza Borches, Gardner Britt, Rob Fisher, Chris Maher, Geoff Malloy, Matt McQueen, Senior Saghafi, Joe Tate. (Absent: Ron Kody). Other Board members present: Rick Holcomb, David Duncan, Randy Harris, Maurice Slaughter, Don Sullivan. Executive Director William Childress, Peggy Bailey, Lisa Mack-Nelson, Micah Bailey and Ann Majors represented the Dealer Board. Christian Parrish represented the Attorney General's office.

The July 8, 2019 meeting summary was approved.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – There was no public comment.

**OLD BUSINESS** – There was no old business.

**OLD BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR** – There was no old business from the floor.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Review and Action: Informal Fact-Finding Conferences:

**Amazing Grace Auto Sales and Emmanuel A. Yeboah** – On July 23, 2019, an informal fact-finding conference was conducted to address the alleged violations of VA Code Sections 46.2-1533 and 1575 (2). Based on the information provided at the conference, the hearing officer recommended assessing a civil penalty of \$750.

Motion was made by Joe Tate to accept the hearing officer's recommendation of assessing a civil penalty of \$750. Matt McQueen seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

**HGS Auto Sales and Hussam Salman** – On July 15, 2019, an informal fact-finding conference was conducted to address the alleged violations of VA Code Sections 46.2-1533 and 1575 (2). Based on the information provided at the conference, the hearing officer recommended assessing a civil penalty of \$750 and a satisfactory inspection be performed within 90 days.

Motion was made by Joe Tate to accept the hearing officer's recommendation of assessing a civil penalty of \$750 and a satisfactory inspection within 90 days. Matt McQueen seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

**Expo Auto Brokers, LLC and Michael H. Martin** – On July 22, 2019, an informal fact-finding conference was conducted to address the alleged violations of VA Code Sections 46.2-1533 and 1575 (2). Based on the information provided at the conference, the hearing officer recommended assessing a civil penalty of \$1,250 and a satisfactory inspection as soon as practical.

Mr. Martin was present and spoke on his own behalf.

Motion was made by Chris Maher to accept the hearing officer's recommendation and assess a civil penalty of \$1,250 and a satisfactory inspection within 90 days. Rob Fisher seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

**North End Motors, LLC and Hassan E. Ali** – On August 6, 2019, an informal fact-finding conference was conducted to address the alleged violations of VA Code Sections 46.2-1533 and 1575 (2). Based on the information provided at the conference, the hearing officer recommended a assessing a civil penalty of \$1,000 and a satisfactory inspection before January 1, 2020 or risk revocation of license.

Mr. Ali was present and spoke on his own behalf.

Motion was made by Joe Tate to assess a civil penalty of \$1,500 and a satisfactory inspection within 90 days. Rob Fisher seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

**Great Affordable Autos, LLC and Naftali Lev** – On August 8, 2019, an informal fact-finding conference was conducted to address the alleged violations of VA Code Sections 46.2-1500, 1537 and 1547. Based on the information provided at the conference, the hearing officer recommended assessing a civil penalty of \$500.

Mr. Lev was present and spoke on his own behalf.

Motion was made by Joe Tate to accept the hearing officer's recommendation of assessing a civil penalty of \$500. Rob Fisher seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

**RHD Japanese, LLC and Ahmed Wahedi** – On July 29, 2019, an informal fact-finding conference was conducted to address the alleged violations of VA Code Sections 46.2-1533 and 1575 (2). Based on the information provided at the conference, the hearing officer recommended assessing a civil penalty of \$750.

Umid Alikhani, Salesperson for RHD Japanese, LLC, was present and spoke on behalf of Ahmed Wahedi.

Motion was made by Chris Maher to accept the hearing officer's recommendation of assessing a civil penalty of \$750. Rob Fisher seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

**Exquizit Auto Sales and Eric L. Johnson** – On August 15, 2019, an informal fact-finding conference was conducted to address the alleged violations of VA Code Section 46.2-1529 and 1575 (2). Based on the information provided at the conference, the hearing officer recommended a suspension for repeated violations of VA Code Section 46.2-1529 and a satisfactory inspection within 30 days of the suspension date.

Motion was made by Joe Tate to assess a civil penalty of \$1,000, 30 day suspension and a satisfactory inspection once the suspension is completed. Rob Fisher seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

## Review and Action: Formal Hearing:

**Virginia Finance Group, LLC and Nicole M. Parker** – Historical Overview leading up to the formal hearing: On January 10, 2019, an informal fact-finding conference was conducted to address the alleged violations of VA Code Section 46.2-1547. Based on the information provided at the conference, the hearing officer recommended assessing a civil penalty of \$1,000 and a satisfactory inspection within 90 days. On March 11, 2019, the Board adopted a resolution a resolution assessing a civil penalty of \$500, satisfactory inspection by September 30, 2019 and all licenses and certificates issued by the Board to Virginia Finance Group, LLC and Nicole Parker suspended until September 30, 2019. On April 15, 2019, Ms. Parker appealed for a formal hearing. On June 27, 2019, a formal hearing was conducted to address the alleged violations of VA Code Section 46.2-1547. Based on the information provided at the hearing, the hearing officer recommended assessing a civil penalty of \$500, Suspension until September 30, 2019 and a satisfactory inspection once she has someone involved who can demonstrate knowledge of dealer operations.

Motion was made by Joe Tate to accept the hearing officer's recommendation and assess a civil penalty of \$500, suspension until September 30, 2019 and a satisfactory inspection by December 9, 2019. Rob Fisher seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR** – There was no new business from the floor.

## **NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting was scheduled for November 4, 2019.

The meeting adjourned at 9:54 a.m.